

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently amended) A jewelry fastener assembly comprising:

a clasp including a first member supported on one end of an article of jewelry and a second member supported on an opposite end of the article of jewelry, one of the first and second members including a male, snap-style projection and the other of the first and second members including a female receptacle constructed and dimensioned to matingly receive the male, snap-style projection therei, the first and second members being constructed and arranged to releasably engage each other in a first, engaged position;

a coupling device including a third member supported on one side of the coupling device and constructed and arranged to releasably engage the first member, a fourth member supported on another side of the coupling device and constructed and arranged to releasably engage the second member in a second, engaged position, wherein one of the third and fourth members includes a male, snap-style projection constructed and arranged to fit within the female receptacle of the corresponding first or second member, and the other of the third and fourth members includes a female receptacle configured and dimensioned to matingly receive the projection of the first or second member therein;

an ornamental enhancer including an upper edge constructed and arranged to support[[ed]] the coupling device; and

wherein in the second engaged position the coupling device is disposed between the first member and the second member, such that the third member of the coupling device is releasably engaged with the first member of the article of jewelry and the fourth member of the enhancer is releasably engaged with the second member of the article of jewelry, and the enhancer is supported by the coupling device such that it hangs below the coupling device.

2 (Cancelled)

3. (Currently amended) The jewelry fastener assembly of claim [[2]] 1, wherein the female receptacle includes an aperture bounded by a raised wall.

4. (Cancelled)

5. (Original) The jewelry fastener assembly of claim 1, wherein the article of jewelry is a necklace.

6. (Original) The jewelry fastener assembly of claim 1, wherein the article of jewelry is a bracelet.

7. (Currently amended) A jewelry fastener assembly comprising:

a clasp including a first member supported on one end of an article of jewelry and a second member supported on an opposite end of the article of jewelry, one of the first and second members including a male, snap-style projection and the other of the first and second members including a female receptacle constructed and dimensioned to matingly receive the male, snap-style projection therein, the first and second members being constructed and arranged to releasably engage each other in a first, engaged position;

a coupling device including:

a third member supported on one side of the coupling device and constructed and arranged to releasably engage the first member[[,]];

a fourth member supported on an other side of the coupling device and constructed and arranged to releasably engage the second member in a second, engaged position, wherein one of the third and fourth members includes a male, snap-style projection constructed and arranged to fit within the female receptacle of the corresponding first or second member, and the other of the third and fourth members includes a female receptacle configured and dimensioned to matingly receive the projection of the first or second member therein;

an ornamental enhancer including an upper edge constructed and arranged to support[[ed]] the coupling device; and

wherein in the second engaged position the coupling device is supported by the first member and the second member of the clasp, and is releasably engaged therewith, and the enhancer is supported by the coupling device such that it hangs below the coupling device.

8. (Cancelled)

9. (Currently amended) The jewelry fastener assembly of claim [[8]] 7, wherein the female receptacle includes an aperture bounded by a raised wall.

10. (Cancelled)

11. (Original) The jewelry fastener assembly of claim 7, further comprising an ornamental edge constructed and arranged to at least partially conceal the clasp.

12. (Original) The jewelry fastener assembly of claim 7, further comprising an ornamental edge constructed and arranged to at least partially conceal the coupling device.

13. (Previously Presented) The jewelry fastener assembly of claim 7, further comprising an ornamental edge constructed and arranged to at least partially conceal the clasp and an ornamental edge constructed and arranged to at least partially conceal the coupling device.

14. (Original) The jewelry fastener assembly of claim 7, wherein the article of jewelry is a necklace.

15. (Original) The jewelry fastener assembly of claim 7, wherein the article of jewelry is a bracelet.

16. (Currently amended) A jewelry fastener assembly comprising:
- a first male snap-style projection supported on one end of an article of jewelry;
 - a first female receptacle constructed and arranged to receive the first male snap-style projection in a closed position and supported on an opposite end of the article of jewelry;
 - a coupling device including a second male snap-in projection supported on one side thereof and constructed and arranged to releasably engage the female receptacle of the article of jewelry, a second female receptacle supported on an other side of the coupling device and having an aperture therein constructed and arranged to releasably engage the first male snap-style projection of the article of jewelry;
 - an ornamental enhancer including an upper edge constructed and arranged to support[[ed]] the coupling device; and
- wherein in a first secured position the first male snap-in projection is inserted within the first female receptacle such that the piece of jewelry may be worn by a user, and wherein in a second secured position the coupling device is disposed between the one end of the piece of jewelry and the other end of the piece of jewelry and the first male snap-in projection is secured within the second female receptacle and the second male snap-in projection is secured within the first female receptacle, and the enhancer is supported by the coupling device such that it hangs below the coupling device.
17. (Previously Presented) The jewelry fastener assembly of claim 16, wherein the female receptacle of both the article of jewelry and the coupling device includes an aperture bounded by a raised wall.
18. (Previously Presented) The jewelry fastener assembly of claim 16, wherein the article of jewelry is a necklace.
19. (Previously Presented) The jewelry fastener assembly of claim 16 wherein the article of jewelry is a bracelet.